

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 02916 251158Z

22

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9285

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 02916

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MARR, XO, US, UK

SUBJECT: DIEGO GARCIA AGREEMENT

REF: (A) STATE 044393; (B) LONDON 2772

EMBASSY OFFICER DISCUSSED REFTEL A WITH ROBERT CORMACK OF DEFENSE DEPARTMENT FEBRUARY 25. CORMACK TAKES THE POINT ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS OF "JOINT DECISION MAKING" IN THE PROPOSED PARLIAMENTARY RESPONSE. HE AGREED THAT THERE IS NO MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE TERMS OF ARTICLE THREE OF THE AGREEMENT. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT HMG IS ATTEMPTING TO COVER THE QUESTIONS OF CONSULTATIONS AND BRITISH AUTHORITY IN SHORTHAND. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE DOES NOT PROVIDE THE SAME SORT OF MECHANISMS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN BRIEFING CONGRESS, AND WE IN FACT ARE QUITE SPECIFIC ABOUT CONSULTATIONS IN OUR BACKGROUND PAPER. THE MATTER OF BRITISH AUTHORITY IN DIEGO GARCIA IS UNDERSTANDABLY A MORE SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL ISSUE HERE THAN IN WASHINGTON. CORMACK WILL NEVERTHELESS DISCUSS OUR SUGGESTED LANGUAGE WITH WILBERFORCE.

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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